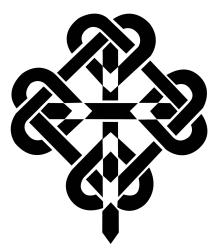
WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP





The whole body joined and knit together... building itself up in love. — Ephesians 4:16 —

APRIL 25, 2021

Who We Seek to Be

In our love for Christ and guided by God's Word we seek to be a community of

Joyful Worship, thoughtfully centered in the wonder and wisdom of the living God and celebrating the diversity of the body of Christ.

Loving Fellowship, encouraging and serving one another in the unifying love of the Holy Spirit.

Life-changing Learning, biblically-based preaching and teaching to equip children, youth, and adults to grow in their relationship with God.

Enthusiastic Service, reflecting the servant heart of Jesus as we proclaim the gospel near and far in word and deed.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE: Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace

Sarabande, Suite No. 1 for cello in G major

Johann Sebastian Bach HELENA NORMAN

ANNETTE LAPLACA

John Rutter

ALETHEA FUNCK

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: All who thirst, come to the water.

People: Come, all who are weary; Come, all who yearn for forgiveness.

All: The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ has washed over us, and our gracious and holy God beckons and blesses us. Let us drink deeply of these living waters. Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Adapted from The Worship Sourcebook

* INVOCATION

* Congregation stands.

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WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

RON NETZEL

Leader: God is light, yet we have been so blind when truth has been so clear.

People:	When we could have looked ahead, we fell behind. When we could have viewed the wider picture, we saw only a part.
Leader:	When we could have sensed the Spirit leading, we missed the way.
People:	We need forgiveness for our dim apprehension of love's clear leading. We need faith that trusts when it cannot see,
All:	We seek to walk in the light that lingers when all else fails; we long to follow the bright Morning Star of our faith, Jesus Christ, the Savior.

Adapted from The Worship Sourcebook

SONG OF CONFESSION: Perdon, Senor/Forgive Us, Lord (Verses 1 and 4)



4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Assurance of Pardon (from Psalm 130)

Leader: People of God, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love, and with him there is full redemption. Hear God's forgiveness: The Lord himself will redeem you from all your sins through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

* ACCLAMATION (Please stand)

- All: To him who loves us and frees us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.
- * PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please share God's peace with those around you.)

SPECIAL MUSIC: Christ Still Rises

Christ still rises when fear grips our city, when death takes no pity, when much is unknown. Christ still rises when friends are divided, when joy feels misguided, when we are alone. Christ still rises when churches are shuttered, when praises are muttered, when prayers go unsaid. Christ still rises when peace has all faded, when we are most jaded, when faith turns to dread, when faith turns to dread. Joanna Sire, Felicity Roche, Helena Norman Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984 Christ still rises when we give to neighbors, when we share our labors, when strangers belong. Christ still rises when we come together, when love is our tether, when hope is our song. Christ still rises when grieving is ended, when bodies are mended, when beauty heals pain. Christ still rises when fear has retreated, when death is defeated and joy will remain, and joy will remain.

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

LEON SINCLAIR

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

(Please stand for the reading of God's Word.) READER: MARK NOLL

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Psalm 122

¹ I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." ² Our feet are standing in your gates, Jerusalem. ³ Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together. ⁴ That is where the tribes go up the tribes of the Lord to praise the name of the Lord according to the statute given to Israel. ⁵ There stand the thrones for judgment, the thrones of the house of David. ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure. ⁷ May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels." ⁸ For the sake of my family and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you." ⁹ For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,

I will seek your prosperity. NIV

* New Testament Scriptures

(John describes the Revelation given to him of the New Jerusalem.)

Revelation 21:15-27

¹⁵ The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. ¹⁶ The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length, and as wide and high as it is long. ¹⁷ The angel measured the wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits thick. ¹⁸ The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. ¹⁹ The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, ²⁰ the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. ²¹ The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.

²² I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵ On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶ The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷ Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. NIV

* Congregational Response

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: The Glorious City

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

Please remember to keep proper social distancing immediately following the service for the well-being of everyone here this morning. Thank you!

* CLOSING HYMN: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (C

(Congregation sings with masks.)



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* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

TODAY

If you have concerns or are in need of prayer, Leon Sinclair will be available at the front following the service.

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, Alethea Funck, Helena Norman, Joanna Sire, Felicity Roche

Thanks to our technical crew.

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1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Food pantry open
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	3rd - 5th grade Sunday School (Zoom)
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	College Fellowship
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Youth Group (Zoom)
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Adult Ed class (Zoom) Seth Ehorn continues "The Use of the Old Testament in the New Testament."

THIS WEEK

Tuesday

	No Women's Bible Studies this week
11:00 a.m 1:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
7:00 p.m.	Men's Book group (Zoom)

IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

Our Buildings & Grounds team respectfully ask everyone to steer clear of the church during the work week, if possible, since workers are on site. If you need to drop off or pick up materials. Just ring the bell and let someone from staff come down to meet you at the door.

If you are having trouble tracking down an appointment to be vaccinated, ask your helpful deacon! Contact Katie Pickard: <u>katie.koechling@gmail.com</u> or 630-251-2023.

NOTES

ELDERS

Katherine Anderson (Clerk of Session), Dan Balzer, Ron Netzel, Carl Pickard, Sheroll Ritchie, Leon Sinclair, Gaby Sosa, Alva Steffler, Steve Westfall, Ken Wolgemuth

DEACONS

Phebe Balzer, Becky Eggimann, Seth Ehorn, Debby France, Katie Pickard, Dee Netzel, Tom Nguyen, Heather Reyes (chair), Jack Swanson, Amy Treier, Rebecca Williams

STAFF

George A. Garrison, Senior Pastor; Annette LaPlaca, Minister of Congregational Life; Alva Steffler, Minister of Congregational Care; Mary Hopper, Minister of Music; Annika Durbin, Children's Minister; Anna and Scott Scheidt, Ministers to Youth; Amber Johnson, Business Manager; Barbara Lawrence, Church Secretary; Frank Lawrence, Church Sexton

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 29W260 Batavia Road Warrenville, IL 60555 (630) 393-4400 www.immanuelpresbyterian.net